## **Arizona Department of Corrections**



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### MEDIA ADVISORY

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# Four new low-custody units open at ASPC-Perryville, Tucson and Douglas 1,000 state beds save Arizona taxpayers money and improve public safety

Four, new low-custody units expanding ADC capacity by 1,000 beds are ready to open. The 1,000 beds were approved during the fall 2003 special session and have been completed on time and under budget. Ribbon-cutting ceremonies preceding the transfer of low custody (level-1) will occur at:

#### ASPC-Douglas, December 8, 2004, 11 a.m.

The **Eggers Unit**, a 200-bed facility for low custody male inmates, staffed by 49 FTE, is named to honor the memories of COIII Brad Eggers and COII Delyn Eggers who served at the Douglas complex. Mr. and Mrs. Eggers died last December.

#### ASPC-Tucson, December 9, 2004, 11 a.m.

The **Catalina Unit**, a 300-bed facility for low custody male inmates, staffed by 53 FTE, is named after a mountain range. Most of the other nine units at ASPC-Tucson are also named after Arizona mountain ranges. The Catalinas are located near Tucson.

#### ASPC-Perryville, December 13, 2004, 11 a.m.

The **Piestewa Unit**, a 200-bed facility for low custody female inmates, staffed by 48 FTE, is named to honor Lori Piestewa. The staff at Perryville admired Army Specialist Piestewa's service to her country. She was the first American service woman to lose her life in Iraq and the first female Native American soldier to die in combat. A number of ADC staff has also served in the military. Many are currently deployed overseas or serving at home in the Guard or Reserves.

The **Santa Rosa Unit**, a 300-bed facility for low custody male inmates, staffed by 56 FTE, is named after a Native American community in southeastern Arizona.

The Level-1 Units lower correctional costs for taxpayers.

- Construction costs \$13M less than traditional methods
- On-going operational expenses \$3.5M less annually

The Level-1Units improve public safety

- Low custody inmates within two years of release assigned to 4 units for discharge planning
- Direct supervision and unit management, proven inmate management techniques adopted

#### Host communities benefit

- A total of 206 new FTE
- Inmates will work full time, many performing community service for state and local agencies

The name for each of the units was suggested by the correctional employees of the Arizona Department of Corrections. These 1,000 level-one beds are the first ever low-custody beds built by ADC. Currently, low-custody inmates are confined in higher custody housing units, which are more expensive to build and operate.